

General Assembly

Committee Bill No. 5538

January Session, 2009

LCO No. **4615***04615HB05538PD_*

Referred to Committee on Planning and Development

Introduced by: (PD)

AN ACT CONCERNING STORAGE OF POSSESSIONS AND PERSONAL EFFECTS OF EVICTED TENANTS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

- Section 1. Section 47a-42 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2009*):
- 3 (a) Whenever a judgment is entered against a defendant pursuant to 4 section 47a-26, 47a-26a, 47a-26b or 47a-26d for the recovery of 5 possession or occupancy of residential property, such defendant and 6 any other occupant bound by the judgment by subsection (a) of section 7 47a-26h shall forthwith remove himself or herself, such defendant's or 8 occupant's possessions and all personal effects unless execution has been stayed pursuant to sections 47a-35 to 47a-41, inclusive. If 10 execution has been stayed, such defendant or occupant shall forthwith 11 remove himself or herself, such defendant's or occupant's possessions 12 and all personal effects upon the expiration of any stay of execution. If 13 the defendant or occupant has not so removed himself or herself upon 14 entry of a judgment pursuant to section 47a-26, 47a-26a, 47a-26b or 15 47a-26d, and upon expiration of any stay of execution, the plaintiff 16 may obtain an execution upon such summary process judgment, and

the defendant or other occupant bound by the judgment by subsection (a) of section 47a-26h and the possessions and personal effects of such defendant or other occupant may be removed by a state marshal, pursuant to such execution, and such possessions and personal effects may be set out on the adjacent sidewalk, street or highway.

(b) Before any such removal, the state marshal charged with executing upon any such judgment of eviction shall give the chief executive officer of the town twenty-four hours notice of the eviction, stating the date, time and location of such eviction as well as a general description, if known, of the types and amount of property to be removed from the premises. Before giving such notice to the chief executive officer of the town, the state marshal shall use reasonable efforts to locate and notify the defendant of the date and time such eviction is to take place and of the possibility of a sale pursuant to subsection (c) of this section. Such notice shall include service upon each defendant and upon any other person in occupancy, either personally or at the premises, of a true copy of the summary process execution. Such execution shall be on a form prescribed by the Judicial Department, shall be in clear and simple language and in readable format, and shall contain, in addition to other notices given to the defendant in the execution, a conspicuous notice, in large boldface type, that a person who claims to have a right to continue to occupy the premises should immediately contact an attorney.

(c) Whenever the possessions and personal effects of a defendant are set out on the sidewalk, street or highway, and are not immediately removed by the defendant, the chief executive officer of the town shall remove and store the same. Such removal and storage shall be at the expense of the defendant. If such possessions and effects are not called for by the defendant and the expense of such removal and storage is not paid to the chief executive officer within fifteen days after such eviction, the chief executive officer shall sell the same at public auction, after using reasonable efforts to locate and notify the defendant of such sale and after posting notice of such sale for one week on the public

signpost nearest to the place where the eviction was made, if any, or at some exterior place near the office of the town clerk. The chief executive officer shall deliver to the defendant the net proceeds of such sale, if any, after deducting a reasonable charge for removal and storage of such possessions and effects. If the defendant does not demand the net proceeds within thirty days after such sale, the chief executive officer shall turn over the net proceeds of the sale to the town treasury. Any municipality may contract with one or more municipalities to operate a facility to store possessions and personal effects that are removed from a sidewalk under this section.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	October 1, 2009	47a-42

Statement of Purpose:

To clarify the authority of municipalities to jointly operate storage facilities for the possessions of evicted tenants.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]

Co-Sponsors: REP. O'ROURKE, 32nd Dist.; REP. BOUKUS, 22nd Dist.

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